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NEW MEXICO

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
State College, New Mexico

WEEKLY FARM PROGRAM NEWS

7-1-49
NO. 352

BRANNAN TESTIFIES ON HOG PRODUCTION PAYMENTS

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AUG 23 1951
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

- Testifying before a Congressional committee recently Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan explained the use of his proposed production payments as they would apply to hogs. He said in part:

"Whenever the market price for a certain period averaged below the announced support, the difference between the average market price and the support level would establish the rate of payment to producers who sold hogs for slaughter during that period. All producers who sold hogs for slaughter within the period would receive the same rate of payment per 100 pounds liveweight. And under this plan, each individual hog producer would have full incentive to get the highest possible price for his hogs on the market.

"The problems of disposal would be eliminated as to all hogs moving directly into market.

"No highly technical staff would be required under the production payment program. The work would be handled by the field force of State and county Production and Marketing Administration committees, and the added expense to the Government for making production payments would be relatively small.

"Under the production payment method, prices of pork and pork products would seek the level determined by domestic and export demand, without governmental action. As a result, the entire output from the slaughter of hogs would move into domestic consumption channels and into such export markets as would be available. Retail prices would be at levels which would increase consumer purchasing, broadening the demand for hogs....

"Preliminary analyses indicate that the payment method would be no more expensive and could well be much cheaper than the purchase method."

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WHO PAYS FOR SURPLUSES? - With crop reports indicating that the production of a number of major crops may exceed market demands, _____, chairman of the _____ agricultural conservation committee, raises two basic questions: What is the cost of surplus farm commodities and who pays the cost?

He points out that the production costs include the fertility of the soil which goes into the production of the excess bushels and bales, the cost of seed, the labor in preparing the land, seeding, cultivating and harvesting the crop, the cost of machinery, and interest on the investment.

In the main these costs are borne by the farmer. But the cost of the fertility wasted in the production of the excess bushels and bales and the breaking down of soil structure through too much single cropping is finally paid for by the consumers. In the long run all the people pay for wasted land.

Without price supports, the business firms with whom the farmer trades would pay through reduced business. Under price supports, any excessive surpluses increase the cost of price protection and often quantities of the product are wasted or have to be used for uneconomical purposes. Again all the people pay.

In general, the chairman points out that without price supports and adjusted production the cost is greater than with them. Excess production forces farm prices down below production costs and when the farmers' buying power is gone that much of the national market is dried up. Business on the Main Streets of thousands of small cities slows down to a standstill. The orders stop and the big businesses in the big cities have to retrench.

Just how much this would contribute to bringing on a depression, Mr. _____ said, is debatable but there is no question that depressed farmer buying power has a major effect upon the whole economy.

FARMERS' SHARE OF FOOD DOLLAR DROPS - Farmers recently have been getting less than half of each dollar spent by consumers for farm food products, reports the Department of Agriculture.

During April 1949, farmers received only 49 cents out of each farm-food dollar--the first time since May 1943 that the farmers' share had dropped below 50 cents. The farmers' share reached a peak of 55 cents several times between November 1945 and January 1948.

By April 1949, the retail price of a "market basket" of foodstuffs had declined 8 percent, compared with July 1948 when the retail cost reached an all-time high. The report indicates that the entire drop came out of the farm value, which shrank 16 percent. Marketing charges in April were at about the same level as last July, and only 4 percent below the May 1948 peak.

During the year April 1948 to April 1949, the farm value of the market basket went down 9 percent, marketing charges went down 1 percent, and the retail cost went down 5 percent.

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A FARM SOLUTION - Tired of farming? Want to get rid of your land?

Here's the recipe:

Cut one medium sized farm into irregular pieces.

Add several successive cash crops to remove the humus.

Stir the thin layer of topsoil frequently until the soil particles are ready to be carried off by the next hard rain. Carefully work the land up and down the slope so that the furrows will form waterways for rapid disposal of excess water--and soil. Keep doing this until the hardpan shows through on the hill-tops and slopes.

Then cut into deep, irregular gullies and leave out in the sun to bake. When done, season with an unpainted house, broken down fences, some old worn-out machinery, a rickety barn, a good sprinkling of unpaid bills, with a pinch of despair. Garnish with weeds.

Serve with a tax sale and move on.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
State College, New Mexico

New Mexico

WEEKLY FARM PROGRAM NEWS

7-8-49
NO. 353

GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION LOAN PROGRAM BROADENED - Loans to farmers under the Government's storage construction program may now be made on "immovable" storage. Mr. _____, Chairman of the _____ County Agricultural Conservation Committee, said today. Such loans will be made to finance new construction or additions to existing immovable facilities.

An "immovable" facility, according to Mr. _____, means one which is so permanent that it cannot be removed without demolishing it.

Each loan on immovable storage must be approved by the State Production and Marketing Administration Committee before a Storage Loan Commitment is issued, Mr. _____ stated. The Committee will review the application before any title search is started.

Loans to farmers for the construction of farm storage facilities are available to any tenant, landlord -- including one who rents his land on a cash-rental basis, owner-operator, or partnership of producers having an interest in the production and storage of corn, wheat, rye, oats, barley, grain sorghums, soybeans, flaxseed, rice, dry edible beans, dry peas, and peanuts. Before loans are made for construction of immovable storage for beans, peas, or peanuts, however, the State Committee must have made a finding, and must have advised the County Committee in writing, that existing privately owned storage facilities for such commodities in the area are not adequate and that the loans may be approved.*

In the case of loans to tenants, the property on which the immovable storage is to be located must be under an assignable long-term lease which will run for at least 10 years beyond maturity of the loan. The lease must also permit the construction or else the owner of the land must give his written consent to the construction.

* Omit sentence if not applicable to your area.

Loans under the Government's farm storage program will be available in all areas through June 30, 1950. Producers are encouraged to obtain their loans from approved lending agencies. Direct loans will be made by the Commodity Credit Corporation only if the applicant cannot or does not wish to obtain credit from other sources. The loans will be for terms up to 5 years, payable in annual installments. The interest rate is 4 percent.

The maximum amount of loans shall be 45 cents per bushel of the rated capacity of the storage facility, or 85 percent of the cost, whichever is the smaller. Each loan on immovable storage must be secured by a first mortgage or deed of trust or, in certain cases, by a second mortgage.** No second mortgages, however, will be accepted on immovable storage structures not located on farms. The cost of title search and recording of documents will be borne by the borrower.

Full details concerning these loans and application forms may be obtained from the County Committee.

** Except in North Dakota. Adapt information to fit local situation.

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THE 1950 CONSERVATION PROGRAM - Rather than any prescribed program to be followed alike by all cooperators, the Agricultural Conservation Program provides assistance on a number of practices which will fit into the conservation needs of individual farmers.

Farmers of _____ county, therefore, need not wait until the 1950 Agricultural Conservation Program is announced before planning their own conservation programs for next year, says _____, chairman of the county agricultural conservation committee. He points out that many farmers are already planning the conservation work they will carry out next year.

As the chairman explains, each farmer knows the conservation problems on his farm. If too much of the top-soil is being washed off the slopes or if yields are going down on a particular piece of land, he can plan his practices now as well as next winter to correct the difficulties.

Mr. _____ advises each farmer to check his farm carefully for signs of erosion and deterioration, and then to plan to use the Agricultural Conservation Program accordingly.

As the chairman puts it, "the program has been effective in getting better conservation practices introduced and carried out on a majority of the farms in the country, there still is room for improvement. The farmer can use the program most effectively if he plans his conservation practices to meet the most important needs of his farm. All of the conservation practices approved for _____ county may be needed on a particular farm but the ones most needed should be used first."

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KNOW YOUR ACP COMMITTEEMEN - The work of the elected farmer Agricultural Conservation Program committeemen -- both county and community -- has taken on a new importance in preparation for the possible establishment of acreage allotments and conducting marketing quota referendums. Final decisions by the Secretary still await current prospects but the committees have to be ready.

The committeemen continue to have the big responsibility for the operation of the Agricultural Conservation Program and now they are in the midst of getting figures together for individual farms as a basis for possible allotment and marketing quota operations.

If and when a county allotment is made, it will be up to the county committee to make equitable allocations to individual farmers. They must administer the crop loan part of the program and are busy helping farmers with their storage problems.

These committeemen, county and community, who have so much to do with the operation of the Production and Marketing Administration in _____ county are all local farmers. They are elected each year by their farmer neighbors.

The chairman of the _____ county agricultural conservation committee is _____, of _____. The vice chairman is _____, of _____. The regular member of the committee is _____ and the two alternatives are _____ and _____ of _____, _____, _____ respectively.

Elected community committeemen are: (List names and communities they represent.)
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
State College, New Mexico

NEW MEXICO

WEEKLY FARM PROGRAM NEWS

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

7-15-49
NO. 354

18,000 MILES OF FENCE - New Mexico ranchers participating in the Agricultural Conservation Program have constructed 18,000 miles of fence according to A. D. Woofter, Member of the State Committee, Production and Marketing Administration. "This development began in 1940 and has resulted in greatly improved range and pasture management", Mr. Woofter stated. "Most ranchers now can shift their livestock from one pasture to another so as to provide uniform grazing without damaging the forage," he concluded.

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(County Secretaries: Please add a local item and send us the clipping of your item.)

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WHOSE GULLY? - That gully cutting across a field of good cropland also cuts across the supply line to your grocery store. The food that could have been produced from the top-soil that was washed away in forming that gully will never reach grocery shelves.

In this pointed manner, _____, chairman of the _____ county Agricultural Conservation Committee, calls attention to the responsibility of everyone -- not just the farmers alone -- in protecting soil resources.

As the chairman explains: "The gully is not just a loss to the farmer who happens to be owning the land. It is a loss to all who depend on the land for their food and clothing. And the loss extends to those who will be depending on the land in the future.

"In most cases a gully is but the more dramatic evidence of erosion. Less spectacular but more serious is the slow, steady loss of top-soil in the area that feeds into the gully. The gully is the open door through which tons and tons of soil are being carried away."

Through the Agricultural Conservation Program, the chairman explains, all the people of the country are cooperating with the farmers in carrying out practices to prevent gullies and to build up the humus in the soil so that it won't be washed or blown away with every rain. The program is a cooperative effort to build up and maintain the soil to assure continued production.

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FARM PARITY RATIO DROPS TO 103 - The Parity Ratio (ratio of the Index of Prices Received by Farmers to the Index of Prices Paid, Interest, and Taxes) dropped to 103, the lowest in 7 years, as a result of the lower prices received by farmers.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
State College, New Mexico

NEW MEXICO

WEEKLY FARM PROGRAM NEWS

7-22-49
NO. 355

COTTON ACREAGE INCREASES - Cotton in cultivation on July 1 is estimated at 26,380,000 acres, reports the Department of Agriculture. This is the largest acreage since 1937 and 14 percent larger than the 1948 acreage. If abandonment is equal to the 10-year average, the acreage for harvest this year would be 25,897,000, compared with 22,768,000 acres in 1948. The 1938-47 average acreage harvested is 21,396,000 acres.

All producing States increased plantings this year. Record high acreages are estimated for California, Arizona, and New Mexico, where increases over 1948 are 19, 34, and 50 percent, respectively. Texas acreage exceeds the 10-million mark for the first time since 1937.

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ANOTHER GREAT CROP YEAR IN PROSPECT - Lead by a record rice crop and a near-record corn crop, the parade of food and fiber from the nation's farms promises to reach tremendous proportions again this year.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture's July 1 crop report points out that the total acreage in crops is the largest since 1933 and yields are promising. Although wheat production fell 148 million bushels below earlier expectations, the crop of 1,189 million bushels still is third largest of record.

Aggregate production, based upon current forecasts, may be 31 percent above the 1923-32 average, exceeded only by the record set last year.

The report explains that favorable conditions at planting time resulted in increased plantings over previous intentions for a number of major crops. The acreage upon which the 52 principal crops were planted or growing in 1949 totals over 366 million acres.

Feed grains as a group are the heaviest contributors to the prospective aggregate crop. Included are the second-largest corn crop in history, a large crop of oats, a relatively small barley crop and a sorghum grain crop probably less than last year, but above average. With the heavy carry-over, supplies of feed grains will be among the most liberal ever available per animal unit.

Hay supplies per animal unit also will be adequate, though somewhat under last year.

With the exception of the record 86 million bushel rice crop, feed grains are below last year's level. Rye production is estimated 20 million bushels below last year.

Cotton acreage is one-seventh larger than in 1948 and development is advanced for this date. This is the largest acreage planted to cotton since 1937.

The large cotton acreage also indicates a larger than normal supply of cottonseed. Among other oilseeds, flaxseed production is expected to be the third largest of record. Acreage of soybeans for beans will be less than last year, but above average. Peanut acreage is only four-fifths of last year's.

Estimated tobacco production is a little above last year and considerably above average. The potato crop will be below average and well below last year. Production of sweetpotatoes will exceed the small 1948 crop, but remain below average.

The trend for both dry beans and dry peas is downward, but dry bean production will still exceed the average by a wide margin.

Prospects for deciduous fruits, except apricots and prunes, are better than average.

Milk production per cow on July 1 was highest of record for the date, despite reduced pasture feed and hot weather. June milk production, while slightly more than in 1948, was otherwise lowest in 9 years. Production in each month of 1949 has exceeded that in the same month of 1948.

Egg production continued at a relatively heavy rate, both in total and eggs per layer. Chicks and young chickens on farms number 12 percent more than a year ago, but still 5 percent below average. Prices of eggs and chickens, compared with feed prices, were more favorable for producers than a year ago.

The aggregate tonnage of commercial truck crops for harvest during the summer season is slightly smaller than last season, but more than average. The acreage is larger, but yields have been limited by hot, dry weather in important areas, particularly in the North Atlantic States. The aggregate acreage planted to the four major processing crops--green peas, snap beans, sweet corn and tomatoes-- is about 4 percent below 1948.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
State College, New Mexico

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
CURRENT AFFAIRS
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7-29-49
NO. 356

NEW MEXICO

WEEKLY FARM PROGRAM NEWS

CCC WILL INITIATE COTTONSEED SUPPORT PROGRAM - The U. S. Department of Agriculture announced today that the Commodity Credit Corporation will initiate a program to support the price of 1949 crop cottonseed at levels to reflect 90 percent of the August 1 parity price.

The program will be designed to give producers of cottonseed a minimum price protection similar to that already available to producers of other major oilseeds. Farm income from cottonseed for the 1947 and 1948 crops amounted to approximately \$350,000,000 for each season. Prices received by farmers averaged \$85.90 per ton for the 1947 crop and \$67.40 per ton for the 1948 crop, as compared with a current price range around \$35.00. On the basis of the cottonseed parity level for recent months, 90 percent of the August 1 parity price (the support level for the program announced today) is expected to be in the neighborhood of \$50 a ton.

Details of the program, which will be based primarily upon the customary loan procedure in effect for other farm commodities will soon be available at County ACA Offices.

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SHUDS FOR CATTLE - British farmers have been trying potatoes as cattle fodder. When supplemented with hay they took "bullocks," as they say over there, through outdoor winters in good shape. Their nutrient value as compared with cereals was 4:1. Yearlings took 15 to 20 pounds per day--steers 2-3 years old consumed 40 to 50 pounds daily; fattening out and finishing took an average of 100 pounds of potatoes per animal per day. Raw potatoes did not cause scouring if the switch from other fodder was not too quick. Half a bushel of sliced potatoes daily added to the grass and hay diet of two ordinary "spring calvers" increased their weekly milk and cream yield from 101 quarts, $5\frac{1}{2}$ pints daily to 130 and $8\frac{1}{2}$,

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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CHICAGO, ILL.

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TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

FROM THE DEAN OF THE FACULTY

SUBJECT: REPORT OF THE FACULTY

ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE

COMMISSION ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

FOR THE YEAR 1939-1940

AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS

OF THE FACULTY

IN RESPONSE TO THE

REPORT OF THE

COMMISSION ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

FOR THE YEAR 1939-1940

AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS

OF THE FACULTY

IN RESPONSE TO THE

REPORT OF THE

COMMISSION ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

FOR THE YEAR 1939-1940

AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS

respectively. Milk yield fell when potatoes were discontinued.

A limited supply of Colorado potatoes is now available for livestock feed in New Mexico. Feeders should contact their local County ACA Committee for details.

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PRICE SUPPORTS TO BE BASED ON WHEAT ALLOTMENTS - Farmers were put on notice today that compliance with wheat acreage allotments will be necessary if they want the protection of Government price supports on their 1950 wheat crop.

According to _____, chairman of the County Agricultural Conservation Committee, an "eligible" producer for price support on the 1950 wheat crop -- generally -- will be "any individual, partnership, association, corporation, or other legal entity that has an interest as landowner, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper in a farm on which the acreage planted to wheat for harvest in 1950 is not in excess of the farm acreage allotment."

If such a producer has an interest in more than one farm in a county, he will be eligible for wheat price supports if the total of his share of the 1950 wheat acreage seeded for harvest on all of the farms does not exceed his total share of the wheat allotments or "permitted" acreages.

If the producer has an interest in farms in more than one county or State, he would not be eligible for wheat price supports if the total of his share of the 1950 wheat acreage seeded for harvest on all of the farms exceeds his total share of such allotments or permitted acreages, regardless of where such farms are situated.

A "permitted" acreage, Mr. _____ said, will be used only for those farms for which a 1950 wheat allotment of less than 15 acres is established and the wheat acreage seeded for harvest is in excess of the allotment. In those cases, the permitted acreage is the smaller of the wheat acreage seeded for harvest or 15 acres.

approximately 1900 and 1910, and the present day.

A limited supply of water is available for the purpose of

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TERRACING PLANS SHOULD BE MADE NOW - This is a good time to plan the terraces to be constructed this fall, suggests _____, chairman of the _____ county Agricultural Conservation Committee. Too often, he says, farmers are rushed with harvesting and put off until the last minute arrangements for conservation work. And too often, the work is not done because it was put off.

Where it will be necessary to contract power machinery, it is advisable to see the contractor now. Surveys for contour lines and plans for terrace construction are jobs which must be completed before the works starts.

Mr. _____ said that _____ farmers of _____ county have indicated they will build terraces this year under the Agricultural Conservation Program. With proper outlets, these terraces will help keep _____ county's top soil at home and serve as a bulwark against erosion for years to come.

Findings of experiment stations and studies on farms indicate that the ideal terrace has a broad base and is so constructed that it can be crossed by all standard farm machinery. Wherever possible, terraces should be so constructed that farming operations can be carried on right over them.

The terrace must be level enough to slow down the flow but there must be enough slope to keep the water from backing up and breaking over or through the terrace. To dispose of excess water without damaging the land, it is important that outlets for terraces be protected by grass or trees.

To qualify for assistance under the Agricultural Conservation Program, terraces must meet certain approved specifications. For this reason, the chairman explains, farmers should find out what these specifications are before going too far with their plans. The county Agricultural Conservation office is located at _____ and is open each week day from _____ to _____.

